

**,REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP BOARD
January 19, 2015
Houghton Township Community Building**

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Supervisor Vivian called the regular meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Trustee Treganowan led the Board and those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Vivian, Clerk Jones, Treasurer Chase, Trustee Long and Trustee Treganowan.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS PRESENT: Elaine Hall, Dan Steck, Paul Mihelcich and Mel Jones,

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL/ ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- Approve minutes of December 15th, 2014 regular meeting
- Accept financial report
- Approve payment of bills for all funds
- Adopt agenda for tonight's meeting

Motion by Treganowan, seconded by Chase, to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Water– Question asked about meters – were they all read by the gun? There are three or four residences that are not new; the Fitzgerald and Gitche Gumees have commercial size meters, so are not read with the gun. Another question asked about water line loss – Mel explained how he calculates water loss. He is monthly monitoring water use, and then can determine if there is a loss problem. Jim asked Mel to call again about the soft start for the pumps for a quote. Mel thought we may not have to wait for the new pumps to install the soft start.

Ordinance – Jack brought up a concern about article #7 on the updated water ordinance. He feels that two weeks is too long a time for the leak to be left. Jim is suggesting a red tag system – the water cannot be turned on until the leak is fixed.

Mel purchased a buffalo box locator for the water department. This can be used to map the buffalo boxes, a project that needs to be done.

Mary reported that all the documents have been sent to Deb Bradford to set up the new billing system.

NEW BUSINESS –

Board of Review – Dates have been set – March 3 (10 a.m. – 12 p.m.); March 9 (10 a.m. – 4 p.m.); March 10 (3 p.m. – 9 p.m.)

There is a board of review training set for Thursday, Feb. 14, 6 – 9 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Job descriptions are something that are needed – currently for Mary and Tom.

Shari got good results from rebilling the unpaid summer taxes.

CLERK – workshops online from MTA are still available, and there is no deadline for viewing.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT – Jim is planning to contact the Bawdens, who own the lot on the beach, bordering the mouth of the Garden City Creek. It is not buildable. The reason for acquiring the property, is that it is at the end of Front street, which needs to be abandoned. The parcel could possibly be used for parking. He plans to continue to pursue the purchase.

BUDGET – Mary has begun the budget work. Next month there will be a board work session.

FLOOR COMMENTS

Elaine suggested that the \$1.00 rent paid by KC Historical Society be paid for 5 years at a time. It was pointed out that the agreement was written that the agreement and payment be annual.

Paul asked about the board opinion on the sale of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge. At this time, the board has not issued an opinion. Jim reported on a meeting he had a while ago, informing of possible financial jeopardy regarding the Lodge.

Confirm date for next meeting – Monday, February 16th, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Carol Jones, Clerk
Houghton Township

-CERTIFICATION-

I, the undersigned, Carol Jones, the duly qualified and elected Clerk for the Township of Houghton, Keweenaw County, Michigan, DO CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the certain proceedings taken by the Township Board of said Township at a regular board meeting held on the 19th day of January, 2015.

Carol Jones, Clerk
Houghton Township